

The Washington Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Washington Times A-6
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____

Date 5 June '89

On the nose

The late CIA Director William Casey was praised for his judgment as the Reagan administration's top intelligence official at a recent Heritage Foundation reception marking the publication of a new book of collected speeches.

"Scouting the Future." Herbert L. Meyer, a Casey aide who compiled the book, revealed that the CIA chief accurately predicted the Kremlin leadership succession following the death of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev Nov. 10, 1982.

That day, agency analysts produced several cubic feet of intelligence reports on the leadership succession that were digested by Mr. Casey, known to be a voracious reader, into a secret, two-page letter to then-President Reagan. The letter concluded with the remark, "As for me, I pick Andropov on the nose and Gorbachev across the board."

KGB Chief Yuri Andropov was named Soviet leader two days later.

And following his death and that of his successor, Constantin Chernenko, Mikhail Gorbachev became Soviet Party boss.